



General Assembly

**House Joint  
Resolution No. 94**

*February Session, 2022*

LCO No. 2349



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION  
AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by:  
(GAE)

**RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE TWENTY-THIRD  
ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONNECTICUT-TAIWAN SISTER-STATE  
RELATIONSHIP.**

Resolved by this Assembly:

1 WHEREAS, the state of Connecticut and the Republic of China  
2 (Taiwan) have enjoyed a long history of friendship and have maintained  
3 a fruitful sister-state relationship encompassing cultural, educational  
4 and economic exchanges since 1999; and

5 WHEREAS, the state of Connecticut exported 217 million dollars'  
6 worth of products to Taiwan in 2021, making Taiwan one of the most  
7 important foreign markets for Connecticut, and strengthening a robust  
8 bilateral trade relationship as well as fostering a continued collaboration  
9 between their respective industries; and

10 WHEREAS, as a full-fledged democracy and robust free-market  
11 economy, Taiwan shares with the United States the principles and  
12 values that provide a strong foundation for mutually beneficial  
13 relations; and

14 WHEREAS, the United States Congress passed the landmark Taiwan  
15 Relations Act (TRA) in 1979 to sustain a close bilateral relationship as  
16 well as to advance mutual security and commercial interests between  
17 the United States and Taiwan, and the TRA, together with the Six  
18 Assurances of President Ronald Reagan in 1982, have served as the  
19 cornerstone of United States-Taiwan relations and have helped to  
20 preserve peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait; and

21 WHEREAS, peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait is crucial to the  
22 maintenance of a free and open Indo-Pacific and Taiwan is an  
23 indispensable partner in safeguarding peace and stability in the region;  
24 and

25 WHEREAS, the United States-Taiwan Education Initiative was  
26 launched in 2020 to strengthen cooperation on international education  
27 and highlight Taiwan's ability to provide instruction in Mandarin, and  
28 given Mandarin's designation as a critical language for maintaining  
29 national security by the United States, institutions of higher education  
30 in Connecticut and Taiwan are encouraged to enhance their exchanges;  
31 and

32 WHEREAS, Taiwan is a trustworthy partner in mitigating the impact  
33 of natural disasters by providing humanitarian assistance and disaster  
34 relief and a partnership between the Connecticut National Guard and  
35 Taiwan under the State Partnership Program is encouraged to facilitate  
36 cooperation on preparedness and response strategies to future crises;  
37 and

38 WHEREAS, Taiwan has signed mutual driver's license recognition  
39 pacts with 36 states of the United States since 2013, and more than 16,000  
40 Taiwanese and American citizens have taken advantage of the  
41 aforementioned pacts, and were Taiwan and the state of Connecticut to  
42 enter into a driver's license reciprocity agreement with each other, such  
43 an agreement would help increase the mobility of international  
44 students, businessmen, and academics from both sides; and

45 WHEREAS, Taiwan's inclusion in the United States Visa Waiver  
46 Program and Global Entry, and the reciprocal travel facilitation enjoyed  
47 by United States citizens when visiting Taiwan, allows Taiwan and the  
48 United States, including the sister-state of Connecticut, to develop closer  
49 relations, and to establish a preclearance program in Taiwan will further  
50 strengthen United States-Taiwan relations through additional trade,  
51 tourism and business; and

52 WHEREAS, the United States has assisted Taiwan in participating in  
53 the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Civil Aviation  
54 Organization (ICAO) and the International Criminal Police  
55 Organization (INTERPOL) and will continue supporting Taiwan's  
56 participation in the United Nations and in other international  
57 organizations; and

58 WHEREAS, the United States and Taiwan enjoy longstanding and  
59 extensive economic ties, including 103 billion dollars in bilateral trade  
60 in 2021, making Taiwan the eighth largest trading partner of the United  
61 States; and

62 WHEREAS, in order to strengthen the bilateral trade relations with  
63 the United States, the government of the Republic of China (Taiwan) has  
64 expressed its wish to sign a Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA) and an  
65 Avoidance of Double Taxation Agreement (ADTA) with the United  
66 States.

67 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Connecticut General  
68 Assembly pause in its deliberations to recognize the twenty-third  
69 anniversary of the Connecticut-Taiwan Sister-State Relationship, and  
70 reiterate its support of a closer economic and trade partnership between  
71 the United States and the Republic of China (Taiwan); and

72 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the clerks of the Senate and House  
73 of Representatives cause a copy of this resolution to be sent to President  
74 Tsai Ing-wen of the Republic of China (Taiwan) through the Taipei

- 75 Economic and Cultural Office in New York, President Joe Biden and  
76 United States Secretary of State Antony Blinken.